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Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Tammam **Sulaiman** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 15 September 1998, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 55th, 56th and 62nd meetings, on 10, 11 and 27 May 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/53/SR.55, 56 and 62).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group (A/53/742 and A/53/838 and Corr.1) and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/53/895 and A/53/897).

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.49

4. At its 62nd meeting, on 27 May, the representative of Poland and coordinator of the informal consultations on item 139, on behalf of the Chairman, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group" (A/C.5/53/L.49).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/53/L.49 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1037 (1996) of 15 January 1996, by which the Council established the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium for an initial period of twelve months, and resolution 1145 (1997) of 19 December 1997, in which the Council noted the termination of the Transitional Administration on 15 January 1998 and established, with effect from 16 January 1998, the Civilian Police Support Group for a single period of up to nine months,

Recalling also its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 on the financing of the Transitional Administration and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 52/244 of 26 June 1998,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Transitional Administration and the Support Group are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Transitional Administration and the Support Group, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

[1] A/53/742 and A/53/838 and Corr.1.

[2] A/53/895 and A/53/897.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Transitional Administration,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to continue to provide the account of the missions with the necessary financial resources to enable them to meet their outstanding liabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group as at 30 April 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 36.3 million United States dollars, representing 7 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Transitional Administration to the period ending 30 November 1998, notes that some 41 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Missions in full and on time;

5. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

6. *Decides* that, on an exceptional basis, the special arrangements approved by Assembly resolution 51/153 B of 13 June 1997 for the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations, whereby appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments providing contingents and/or logistic support to the Transitional Administration shall be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4, as set out in the annex to the present resolution, shall be applied to the Support Group;

7. *Decides also* to authorize the Secretary-General to utilize an amount of 601,200 dollars gross (541,500 dollars net) from the resources provided for the period ending 30 June 1998 in order to meet the cost of completing the liquidation of the mission as well as the final audit, inclusive of the amount of 553,400 dollars gross (493,700 dollars net) related to liquidation activities already concurred to by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

8. *Decides further* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Transitional Administration and the Support Group, they shall be credited their respective share of the remaining unencumbered balance of 14,646,100 dollars gross (13,906,700 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1998;

9. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their obligations to the Transitional Administration and the Support Group, their share of the remaining

[3] A/53/897.

unencumbered balance of 14,646,100 dollars gross (13,906,700 dollars net) in respect of the period ending 30 June 1998 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

10. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the final disposition of the assets of the Transitional Administration and the Support Group;[4]

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group".

Annex

Special arrangements with regard to the application of article IV of the financial regulations of the United Nations

1. At the end of the twelve-month period provided for in financial regulation 4.3, any unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question relating to goods supplied and services rendered by Governments for which claims have been received or which are covered by established reimbursement rates shall be transferred to accounts payable; such accounts shall remain recorded in the Special Account for the Civilian Police Support Group until payment is effected.

2. (a) Any other unliquidated obligations of the financial period in question owed to Governments for goods supplied and services rendered, as well as other obligations owed to Governments, for which required claims have not yet been received shall remain valid for an additional period of four years following the end of the twelve-month period provided for in regulation 4.3;

(b) Claims received during this four-year period shall be treated as provided for under paragraph 1 of the present annex, if appropriate;

(c) At the end of the additional four-year period, any unliquidated obligations shall be cancelled and the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained therefor shall be surrendered.

[4] A/53/838 and Corr.1.